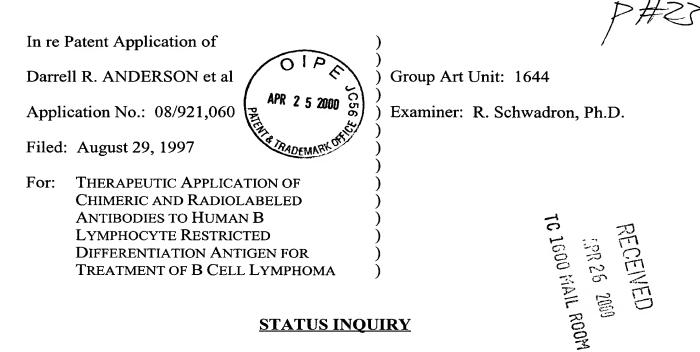
Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>012712-432</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On December 20, 1999 Applicants filed a Response to the Office Action mailed July 20, 1999. On January 18, 2000 Examiner Schwadron issued a thirty day Action. Applicants then filed a Notice of Appeal and Petition for a Third Month Extension of Time on January 20, 2000, and on February 1, 2000 filed a Reply responsive to the January 18th Office Action.

To date the undersigned has not received a further communication from the Examiner. Accordingly, please advise the undersigned as to the status of the above-identified application.

Application No. <u>08/921,060</u> Attorney's Docket No. <u>012712-432</u>

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:

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Date: April 25, 2000

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